

Application No. No. 09/639,098

Submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 dated December 30, 2004

Response to the Office Action of July 1, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1- 7 and 11 – 12 have been canceled. Claims 8-10 and 13-34 remain pending.

Claims 17-27 and 31-33 were previously withdrawn from consideration. The rejections set forth in the Office Action are respectfully traversed below.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 8-10, 13 – 16 and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over **Klatt** (USP 6,592,031, as the English language equivalent of DE 29821644) in view of **Matsuzaki et al.** (USP 5,867,218).

Klatt is directed to a PC card having identification-information acquisition unit (sensor 5). **Matsuzaki** is directed to an imaging apparatus having a box shape. This apparatus has a built-in camera unit 11, which can be taken out of the storage space and used while it is connected through a cable 22.

Matsuzaki's imaging apparatus has nothing to do with the acquisition of identification information, and is not an apparatus to be mounted in the container portion of an image processing apparatus. There is thus no common objective and construction between **Matsuzaki's** imaging apparatus and **Klatt's** PC-card. Further, **Matsuzaki** is clearly a nonanalogous art. There is no motivation to search in the field of imaging apparatus technologies and find a cable connection as taught by **Matsuzaki** for possible application to the identification-information acquisition unit as taught by **Klatt**. For at least these reasons, there is no motivation to combine the cited references in manner claimed.

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Furthermore, the newly added limitations in independent claims 8 and 28 are not found in either **Matsuzaki** or **Klatt**. The cited prior art does not teach or suggest “a carrier unit which carries said identification-information-acquisition unit from a position where said identification-information-acquisition unit is encased in the container portion to a position where said identification-information-acquisition unit is situated outside the container portion so as to permit entry of identification information, said carrier extending to an outside of the container portion by moving out of a position where said carrier is substantially fully encased in the container portion,” For at least these further reasons, the present claimed invention patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

If for any reason it is believed that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully Submitted,
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